



CP SCOOP – December 10th, 2020

MUNICIPAL UPDATES



Arena Construction Project Update – December 10th, 2020 - The masonry for the two-storey component of the building will be completed by the end of this week. Masonry installations will then move to the dressing rooms with the internal partitions being completed next week. Structural steel work commenced late last week on the roof structure and continues this week. Next week the structural steel work will start on the two-storey section of the building. Weather permitting, the goal is to have all of the roof deck 100% installed before the Christmas break. The current building program for the structure is continuing from the west side of the building and moving easterly.

Together, Tal-Co Building Innovations Ltd. and the Town of Carleton Place would like to ask for everyone's help in ensuring safe and efficient work zones. Should residents be travelling within the construction zone we urge you to proceed with caution.

We ask for everyone's patience and cooperation as this construction project proceeds, however, should a member of the public have any concerns or questions of a general nature, please contact the Recreation and Culture Office at 613-257-1690.

FEDERAL UPDATES

[COVID Alert App Updated to Serve Canadians Better](#) - The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, and the Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister of Digital Government, announced that COVID Alert app has been updated with two new features. The first app update allows users to clear the screen that indicates exposure to COVID-19. After receiving a negative COVID-19 test result, the screen can be cleared enabling the app to alert the user of a new exposure. Users should follow public health guidance, and only clear the screen that indicates exposure following a negative test result or after they receive instructions provided by their public health authority. The second feature allows users to turn COVID Alert on and off without disabling Bluetooth. This change was made after listening to feedback from health care workers, who need flexibility to turn off COVID Alert while they are at work wearing their personal protective equipment (PPE). When these users turn off COVID Alert, their phone will not exchange random codes to or from other app users' phones, nor will it send notifications of exposure.

PROVINCIAL UPDATES

Ontario Extends COVID-19 Orders - Action is taken to protect vulnerable populations and preserve health care capacity - The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, is extending all orders currently in force under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA) until January 20th, 2021. This extension will support the safe delivery of health care and other critical services until COVID-19 vaccines are approved and widely available.

Ontario Expands Funding for Supportive Housing - Investments will strengthen supports for individuals with mental health and addictions challenges - The Ontario government is investing over \$47 million to provide supportive housing for individuals with severe mental health and addictions challenges who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The funding will also support the creation of a new *Back to Home* program to help patients transition from hospitals to permanent housing.

Ontario Permanently Allowing Alcohol with Food Takeout and Delivery - New measures to help restaurants and bars rebuild and recover - The Ontario government is supporting jobs at local restaurants, bars, breweries, wineries and distilleries during the COVID-19 pandemic by expanding opportunities in alcohol sales, including making the sale of alcohol with food takeout and delivery orders permanent.

Governments Helping Ontario Agri-Food Businesses Increase Online Sales - Initiative will provide consumers with more local food choices - The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing over \$3.5 million to help more than 700 businesses in the Ontario agri-food sector establish or expand their online presence. This initiative will provide consumers with more local food choices when shopping from home during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ontario Ready to Receive COVID-19 Vaccines - Premier Doug Ford issued a statement today on the province's readiness for the delivery and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

OTHER UPDATES

COVID-19 Testing Clinic at Carleton Place Arena on December 11th & 18th - The Almonte COVID-19 Assessment Centre is hosting two (2) satellite COVID-19 Testing Clinics at the Carleton Place Arena. The Clinics will run from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 11th and Friday, December 18th, 2020.

Pre-booked appointments are required. There are no walk-in appointments. To schedule an appointment, please call 613-325-1208 and leave a message. Messages are retrieved daily between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. You will receive a call back from an unknown/private number.

These are COVID-19 Testing Clinics. To qualify for a test under provincial guidelines, patients must have COVID-19 symptoms; be a confirmed COVID-19 close contact; or be participating in a Ministry testing group. The test does not include a physician assessment. If you require a physician assessment, please call your local family physician or Telehealth Ontario (toll-free 1-866-797-0000 or toll-free TTY at 1-866-797-0007) for a referral to our Care Clinic. Please go to your nearest Emergency Department if your symptoms are severe.

Community Plan for Safety and Well-being for Lanark County and the Town of Smiths Falls – Inclusive Video Series Launched - A working group of the Community Plan for Safety and Well-being for Lanark County and the Town of Smiths Falls has helped to launch a series of videos to raise awareness and education around issues of racism, hate and diversity.

“As we approach the holiday season and navigate the responses to COVID-19, it is a critical time to take community safety and well-being into account,” explained Erin Lee, Executive Director of Lanark County Interval House and Community Supports and one of the team leaders of the Culture and Diversity Working Group. “Whether it be a response to mental health, incidents of violence, hate in communities or the impact of things happening in and across the world, pressures are real for folks.”

In an effort to bring issues to the forefront during these challenging times, the working group decided it is important to have youth be a central focus and voice in taking some local action and encouraging change through video education.

A small team of youth is leading the campaign that they have named “Inclusive Voices.” Six initial topics have been selected, including racism, gender-based violence, LGBTQ2S+, ableism, transphobia and mental health during COVID. Future topics are under consideration, such as human trafficking.

An introduction video and the first video of the series have been posted on a dedicated YouTube channel, as well as on Instagram. There is a plan to expand to other social media.

“The goal is to reach folks and encourage conversation, learning to ultimately augment diversity and inclusion in Lanark County,” added Lanark County OPP Detachment Commander Insp. Karuna Padiachi, another working group team leader.

People are encouraged to follow the work and voices of youth and to share this community initiative widely. The Inclusive Voices videos can be accessed through the following links:

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/inclusivevoices?igshid=p9qb0jvp49bz>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEwT2pXnKVU&feature=youtu.be>

For additional information or if you want your voice to be heard, contact inclusivevoices2020@gmail.com

The Community Plan for Safety and Well-being is led by an advisory committee comprised of members from a wide range of human service sectors. The plan is mandated by the province and once completed was adopted by local municipalities last year. See the plan at <http://smithsfalls.ca/media/2019/01/CSWB-Plan-for-LC-and-SF-final.pdf>

[Confirmed outbreak of COVID-19 at Gananoque Chevrolet and the CSN Gananoque Collision Centre](#) - Dr. Paula Stewart, Medical Officer of Health at Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit and Dr. Kieran Moore, Medical Officer of Health at KFL&A Public Health are advising the public that the Health Unit is following up on an outbreak of cases of COVID-19 at the Gananoque Chev Buick GMC Cadillac (Main Dealership includes sales, parts, service/garage) located at 439 King Street East Gananoque and CSN Gananoque Collision Centre 380 Herbert Street, Gananoque.

Lanark County COVID-19 Self-isolation Centre for Precariously Housed Individuals Open Over Holidays - As the Christmas holidays approach, Lanark County agencies remind residents that a self-isolation

centre for people in precarious housing situations who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are awaiting results will continue to be available.

Staff are assigned to the centre throughout the holidays, and individuals who are homeless or unable to isolate due to related housing can be referred if they have a known COVID diagnosis, have symptoms or are suspected of having it and are awaiting test results, or have otherwise been instructed by the health unit to isolate.

In the spring, a collaboration of community agencies developed and is staffing the temporary self-isolation centre in Perth. It is available as a resource for Lanark County as the impact of the pandemic continues to evolve and affect the community. Agencies intend to maintain the site until Spring 2021.

The centre consists of a block of rooms and a number of staff working limited hours at an on-site office set up. This is a temporary option for those in Lanark County and Smiths Falls who are homeless, living in a group setting, or precariously housed and have no opportunity to socially distance or quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The collaboration includes assessment services, arrangements for transportation, on-site support as well as virtual services for medical needs (wellness checks by the Lanark County Paramedic Service's Community Paramedics), harm reduction, mental health, food and basic provisions. The Leeds Grenville Lanark District Health Unit is guiding infection control protocols. Clients who test positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined at the centre voluntarily. Clients staying at the centre must remain on the site property at all times except for required hospital/medical treatment.

Referrals to the COVID-19-positive centre should come through agencies by calling the Lanark County Interval House and Community Support (LCIHCS) crisis line (available 24/7) at 613-257-5960 or 1-800-267-7946 or TTY: 613-257-1952.

The project was made possible through funding from the Social Services Relief Fund issued by the Province of Ontario and administered through Lanark County Social Services. Lanark County Mental Health took the lead to apply for the funding, with support and endorsement from about two dozen local agencies and businesses, which have offered coordination, staffing and in-kind and other contributions.